

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The utility of adenovirus vectors (Ad) for gene therapy is  
5 restricted by their inability to selectively transduce disease-affected  
tissues. This limitation may be overcome by the derivation of  
vectors capable of interacting with receptors specifically expressed in  
the target tissue. Previous attempts to alter Ad tropism by genetic  
modification of the Ad fiber have had limited success due to  
10 structural conflicts between the fiber and the targeting ligand. The  
present invention presents a strategy to derive an Ad vector with  
enhanced targeting potential by a radical replacement of the fiber  
protein in the Ad capsid with a chimeric molecule containing a  
heterologous trimerization motif and a receptor-binding ligand.

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